

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of designing and constructing an optimum vacuum cleaning system for an automotive vehicle, comprising:

locating the internal surfaces of the vehicle, which are within the reach zone of the driver of the vehicle;

providing a length of suction hose sufficiently long to reach around said reach zone and adjacent portions of the vehicle, selecting one of said surfaces to provide a space adjacent thereto sufficiently large to accommodate said suction hose, said suction hose stored in said space;

providing a vacuum supply system to said hose;

providing controls to activate and deactivate said vacuum supply system;

locating said controls in a surface accessible to the driver within said zone, and providing means for disabling said vacuum system while the vehicle is in motion, and whereby cleaning can be done before dirt and stain interacts with the environment.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said controls are located between the driver seat and the passenger seat of said automotive vehicle.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said controls are located under the driver seat of said automotive vehicle.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said controls are located adjacent the headliner of said automotive vehicle.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said controls are located in the seat back of the front passenger seat of said automotive vehicle.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said controls are located under the rear passenger seat of the automotive vehicle.

7. (Previously Presented) A method of designing and constructing a vacuum cleaning system for an automotive vehicle comprising:

locating the internal surfaces of the vehicle which are within the reach zone of the driver of the vehicle;

providing a portable vacuum cleaning unit to be powered by the electrical system of the vehicle;

selecting one of said internal surfaces of the vehicle that are within the reach zone of the driver and which has a space behind the surface which is sufficiently large to accommodate said portable vacuum cleaning unit, said portable vacuum cleaning unit placed in the space and;

providing automatic disabling means for disabling said portable unit when the vehicle is in a drive mode.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said internal surface is between the driver seat and the front passenger seat of said automotive vehicle.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said internal surface is under the driver seat of said automotive vehicle.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said internal surface is adjacent to the headliner of said automotive vehicle.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said internal surface is in the seat back of the front passenger seat of said automotive vehicle.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said internal surface is under the rear passenger seat of said automotive vehicle.

13. (Previously Presented) A portable vacuum cleaning apparatus for an automotive vehicle comprising:

a portable vacuum cleaning unit having an internal electric motor for providing a vacuum source;

a portable vacuum cleaning unit storage means in said vehicle for storing said portable unit;

a power supply for said portable vacuum cleaning unit, and;
means for automatically disabling said portable vacuum cleaning unit when the vehicle is in a drive mode.

14. (Previously Presented) The portable cleaning apparatus of claim 13 wherein said power supply is provided by a power cord connected to the electrical system of the vehicle, and said disabling means disconnects said power cord from said portable unit.

15. (Previously Presented) The portable cleaning apparatus of claim 13 wherein the unit has a battery for the power supply to said internal electric motor, and said disabling means disconnects said battery from said internal electric motor.

16. (Previously Presented) The portable cleaning apparatus of claim 13 wherein said portable vacuum cleaning unit is located within a reach zone of the driver seat and comprises a length of suction hose sufficiently long to reach around the reach zone of the driver and adjacent portions of the automotive vehicle.

17. (Previously Presented) The portable cleaning apparatus of claim 13 wherein said portable vacuum cleaning unit further comprises controls to activate and deactivate said vacuum cleaning unit, said controls being located within the reach zone of the driver of the automotive vehicle.

18. (Currently Amended) A vacuum cleaning system for an automotive vehicle, comprising:

a length of vacuum hose operatively connected to a vacuum source;
a reel, said hose mounted on said reel;
a storage space in said vehicle, said reel mounted in the storage space[[,]]; and
automatic disabling means preventing said hose from being removed from said storage space when said vehicle is in a drive mode.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18 wherein said automatic disabling means prevents said hose from being removed from said reel.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18 wherein said automatic disabling means prevents said reel from turning when the vehicle is in a drive mode.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18 including a manually operated disabling means for overriding said automatic disabling means.

22. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaning system of claim 18 wherein said length of vacuum hose is sufficient to reach around a reach zone of the driver of the automotive vehicle.

23. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaning system of claim 18 further comprising controls to activate and deactivate said vacuum source, said controls being located within the reach zone of the driver of the automotive vehicle.

24. (Currently Amended) A vacuum cleaning system for an automotive vehicle comprising:

- a length of flexible vacuum hose operatively connected to a vacuum source;
- a storage space in said vehicle for storing said flexible vacuum hose said storage space within a reach zone of one of a driver and an occupant of the vehicle[.]; and
- means preventing said hose from being withdrawn from said storage space when the vehicle is in drive mode.

25. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaning system of claim 24 wherein said length of vacuum hose is sufficiently long to reach around the reach zone of the driver of the automotive vehicle.

26. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaning system of claim 24 further comprising controls to activate and deactivate said vacuum source, said controls being located within the reach zone of the driver of the automotive vehicle

27. (Currently Amended) A built in vacuum cleaning system for an occupant of a motor vehicle, including a driver with a driver reach zone, and wherein each occupant has an occupant reach zone when seated in the vehicle, and there being an internal surface of the vehicle that is within the driver reach zone and outside of the occupant reach zone, said system comprising:

a length of flexible vacuum hose one end of which is fixed to the vehicle and operatively connected to a vacuum source;

a storage space in one of the driver reach zone and the occupant reach zone for storing said flexible vacuum hose,

locking means for preventing said hose from being withdrawn from said storage space [[,]]; and

control means for disabling said locking means to permit said hose to be withdrawn from said storage space, said control means being located on said internal surface.